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THE DEATH OF LAWTON

Shot on the Firing Line in an Attack on San Mateo.

REFUSED TO TAKE COVER

Surrounded by His Staff Officers He Falls Among His Protected Troopers.

GRIEF OF THE COMMAND

Dead Body of the General Carried Into the Rebel Town on the Shoulders of the Victorious Soldiers.

MANILA, Dec. 19.—General Lawton left home Monday night, having returned from his Northern operations Saturday, to lead an expedition through the Mariguina valley which has been an insurgent stronghold throughout the war.

The valley has several times been invaded but never held by the Americans. General Gerone was supposed to have there the largest organized force north of Manila and General Otis wished to garrison Mariguina.

The night was one of the worst of the season. Terrible rain had begun and is still continuing.

Accompanied by his staff and a group of Fourth cavalry, General Lawton set out at 9 o'clock in advance of the main force consisting of the Eleventh cavalry and one battalion each of the Thirtieth and Twenty-seventh infantry, which started from La Loma at midnight.

With a small escort he led the way through an almost pathless country, a distance of 15 miles over hills and through canes break and steep mud, the horses climbing rocks and sliding down hill. Before daybreak the command had reached the head of the valley.

San Mateo was attacked at 8 o'clock and a three hours' fight ensued. This resulted in but few casualties on the American side apart from the death of General Lawton, but the attack was difficult because of the partial defense of the town.

General Lawton was walking along the firing line within three hundred yards of a small sharpshooter's trench, conspicuous in the big white helmet he always wore, and a light yellow rain coat.

He was also easily distinguished because of his commanding stature. Sharpshooters directed several close shots which clipped the grass nearby. His staff officers called General Lawton's attention to the danger he was in, but he only laughed with his usual contempt for bullets. Suddenly he exclaimed: "I am shot," clutched his hands in a desperate effort to shield erect and fell into the arms of a staff officer.

Orderlies rushed across the field for the surgeon, who dashed up immediately, but their efforts were useless. The body was taken to a clump of bushes and laid on a stretcher, the familiar white helmet covering the face of the dead general. Almost at this moment the cheers of the American troops rushing into San Mateo were mingled with the rifle volleys.

After the fight six Stuart cavalrymen forded the river to the town, carrying the litter on their shoulders, the staff preceding with colors and a cavalry escort following.

The troops filed bared through the building where the body was laid and many a tear fell from the eyes of men who had followed the interred Lawton. The entire command was stricken with grief, as though each man had suffered a personal loss.

Owing to the condition of the country, which is impossible so far as vehicles are concerned, the remains could not be brought to Manila today. Mrs. Lawton and children are living in a government residence formerly occupied by a Spanish general.

San Mateo lies between a high mountain behind and a broad shallow stream in front, with wide sand bars which the insurgent trenches and buildings command. The Americans were compelled to ford the river under fire. It was while they were lying in rice fields and volleying across preparatory to passing the stream that General Lawton was shot. All except the officers were behind cover. A staff officer was wounded about the same time and one other officer and seven men were wounded. After three hours' shooting, the Filipinos were dispersed

into the mountains. Colonel Lockwood took command when General Lawton fell.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The war department tonight received the following official confirmation of the killing of General Lawton near San Mateo, Luzon:

"Manila, Dec. 19.—General Lawton, while engaged in driving the insurgents from the San Mateo section of country, northeast of Manila, was killed instantly at 9:30 yesterday morning. His death is a great loss to us and his country." OTIS."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Up to 2 o'clock this afternoon, the war department had received no word of Lawton's death except that conveyed in the Associated Press dispatch which was given immediately to the war officials. The president's first intimation of the loss of this brave officer was also given him by the Associated Press. The dispatch was sent to the White House while the cabinet meeting was in progress, and was received with expressions of sorrow and regret.

It was learned at the war department that instructions had been received last night from the president to prepare Lawton's commission as brigadier-general in the regular army to fill one of the existing vacancies, and the adjutant-general's clerks were at work on the commission when the information of Lawton's death was conveyed to the department.

Lawton was a native of Indiana, and won his commission in the army by signal gallantry during the civil war.

HE GIVES IT UP.

Mabini, the Philippine Leader, says Insurgents are Vanquished—They Now Only Want a Fair Government.

MANILA, Dec. 19.—Mabini, formerly a member of the Filipino cabinet, and considered the strongest and most intellectual of the insurgents, said to a correspondent of the Associated Press at Manila today:

"Future peace of the Philippines depends entirely upon the form of government the Americans establish. We are vanquished because we lacked food and munitions and mismanaged our affairs. But a spirit of independence is growing for recognition.

"If the government eventually establishes here a liberal, secure and free, satisfaction and contentment among our people will result and there will be no trouble. If it is otherwise the people will be dissatisfied and will aid the revolutionary movements which surely will occur sooner or later.

OTIS' CASUALTY LIST.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—General Otis' latest casualty list is as follows:

Drowned, Rio Grande, near Caban

Alma, Nov. 7. Twenty-second infan-

try, Dr. C. J. Marks; At Tuyug, Dec.

2. Twenty-fourth infantry, John H.

Johnstone, corporal, dysentery, Nov.

26. Thirty-fourth infantry, Frank

Weller, 1st, 8, Eleventh cavalry, John

Dolan, sergeant, Dec. 13. Fourth

infantry, David E. Buckingham, typ-

ist, Dec. 27. Twenty-second infantry,

Charles Bullock, Dec. 8. Twelfth

infantry, Dean S. Sharer, gunshot

wounds in action, Dec. 19. Thirty-

third infantry, Gilbert Baron, Dec. 15.

Thirty-sixth infantry, Hardy T.

Lawrence, Dec. 9. Third cavalry,

Charles Risi, suicide, Dec. 15. Thirty-

sixth infantry, Mark A. Hallie, cor-

poral, meningitis, Dec. 10. Thirty-

seventh infantry, Lewis L. Osgood,

variolæ, Dec. 10. Thirteenth cavalry, William C. McFarland, tuberculosis; Dec.

3. Thirty-fifth infantry, Henry Paup,

Dec. 17. Twenty-second infantry, Ar-

thur Hollenbeck.

Collins, Dec. 7. Eighteenth infantry,

Thomas Smith.

Septicemia, Dec. 15. —infantry,

Henry W. Olper, sergeant, band.

GROW ON PHILIPPINES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Grow, the

venetian ex-speaker of the house, to-

day read a carefully prepared speech

in defense of the policy of retaining

possession of the Philippines. He said

the people of the district of Columbia

would have just as much right to re-

bel against the authority of the United

States as the people of the Philippines.

The "Copperheads" of 1861-65 were suc-

ceeded by "anti-imperialists" of today.

Both sought to embarrass the govern-

SUMMERS' APPOINTMENT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The sena-

tate today confirmed General O. Sum-

mers to be appearer of merchandise

in the district of Willamette, Oregon.

TWO FORMAL ACTS.

ATLANTA, Dec. 13, via Auckland,

N. Z., Dec. 19.—The German flag was

hoisted over the courthouse today as

an official notification of the annexa-

tion of the islands, by agreement, to

Germany. The Samoan chiefs informed

the German consul that Mataafa

would be selected. Having declared

their government established, the

Mataafates are driving the Malietasans

out of their villages. Trouble appears

imminent.

MORE TROOPS CALLED FOR

Government to Send the Men First Asked by Buller.

ANOTHER INFANTRY FORCE

Unprecedented Enthusiasm of All Classes to Enlist for South Africa—The Queen's Kindness.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—4:45 a. m.—The government has at last consented to mobilize the force which General Buller is credited with having demanded all along as essential to success in South Africa, namely, 10,000 mounted infantry.

This morning the war office issued an order to the effect that the government has decided to raise for South Africa a mounted infantry force to be called the "imperial yeomanry," and to be recruited from yeomanry, volunteers and civilians possessing requisite qualifications. Enrollment will be for one year, or during the continuance of the war. All must be good riders and marksmen. Officers and men are to provide their own horses.

The enrolled strength of the yeomanry forces, which originated in the troublous periods of the French revolution, is now 10,432. Their services have never before been called for in war.

The enthusiasm of the volunteer enlists continues and promises to give the government ample material.

The queen has announced her intention of entertaining at Windsor castle on December 26th, the wives and children of soldiers serving in South Africa, who reside in the neighborhood.

Statements are published from Boer sources in Brussels and Berlin that President Kruger is willing to conclude peace on the basis of the status quo, but that otherwise he will call upon the Boers in Cape Colony to join in proclaiming the independence of all Cape territories of Great Britain.

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